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# Foreigners Who Own Farmland

What They Should Know  
About The Foreign  
Investment and  
Disclosure Act of 1978

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE  
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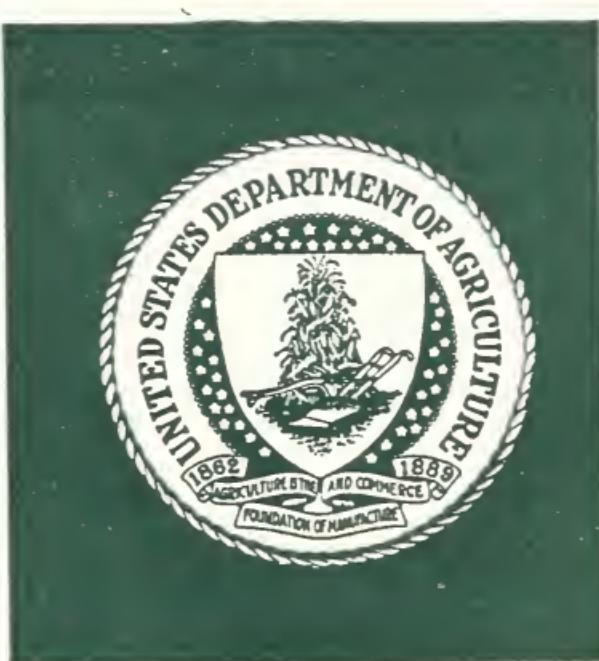
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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Stabilization and  
Conservation Service

April 1979

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### WHO

- Individuals who are citizens of the Northern Mariana Islands or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.
- Individuals not lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence or who are paroled into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act.
- Any organization created under the laws of a foreign government or a U.S. organization which has located its principal place of business outside the United States.



- Any U.S. organization where 5 percent of the ownership is controlled by one or more foreigners or by foreign companies or corporations.
- Foreign governments.

## WHAT TO REPORT

- Each tract of agricultural land in farmland in the United States, its territories, the Northern Mariana Islands and the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands owned by persons required to report.
- Leaseholds of 10 years or more.

*Under the law, the term farmland embraces more than fields used for growing crops. It also includes land in timber or forestry. Idle farmland used for crops or timber within the past 5 years must also be reported.*

*Tracts of less than 1 acre which produce less than \$1,000 worth of products in gross sales per year are exempt from the reporting requirements.*



## **WHEN TO REPORT**

Foreign persons, foreign governments or foreign organizations who owned land on February 1, 1979, must report by August 1, 1979. Those buying or selling land February 2, 1979 or later must report the transfer within 90 days. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will report first on alien land holdings in the United States to the President and Congress in late 1979. Subsequent reports will be made semi-annually.

## **WHERE TO REPORT**

The Secretary of Agriculture designated the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) to collect the reports of foreign ownership because ASCS has over 2,700 offices in rural counties throughout the United States. Persons wishing to obtain a reporting form (ASCS-153) may do so from any of these county offices.

To find the ASCS county office, look in the white pages of the telephone book. In most cases it will be listed under U.S. Government, then under the subhead U.S. Department of Agriculture. The office will be listed as ASC or ASCS county office.

Although interested parties may obtain a form from any ASCS county office, the completed form must be returned to the ASCS county office that administers farm programs for the county where the land is located.